



Citizens Advisory Committee MINUTES

DATE

Friday, January 7, 2022

The regular meeting of the Citizens Advisory Committee held Friday, January 7, 2022, at the Merced County Association of Governments office, Front Conference Room, 369 W. 18th Street, Merced in-person and via webinar was called to order by Chair Shane Smith at 8:36 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Maddie Brown, Student
Jose Delgadillo, Citizen at Large
Rene Gutierrez, Citizen at Large
Jack Jackson, Citizen-at-Large
Jean Okuye, Agriculture
Patricia Ramos-Anderson, Economic Development*
Shane Smith, Citizen at Large, Chair
Ursula Stock, Citizen at Large, Vice Chair*
Michelle Symes-Thiara, Education
Paul Villarreal, Goods Movement
Yamilet Valladolid, Healthcare*
Paul Ward, Commerce/Finance

MEMBERS ABSENT

Michael Beltran, Engineering
Mike Jensen, Water/Irrigation
Bryan Kroeger, Construction
Jaswinder Singh, Real Estate
Vacant, Small Business

OTHERS PRESENT

None

STAFF PRESENT

Natalia Austin, Associate Planner
Nav Bagri, Finance Director
Stephanie Jackson, Executive Assistant
Alicia Ochoa-Jones, Procurement Manager

Mary-Michal Rawling, Public Affairs Manager
Jose Perez, Assistant Transit Manager
Joy Young, Administrative Assistant II

*Arrived after roll call

1. Call to order/roll call

At this time, Chair Shane Smith called the meeting to order and instructed that the roll call for attendance be taken. It was determined that a quorum was present.

2. Public comment

None.

3. Information items:

a. Merced County Association of Governments

- i. CAC highlights of the December 3, 2021 meeting
- ii. Sign-up sheet for CAC representative to the MCAG Governing Board meetings – 2022
- iii. CAC calendar – 2022
- iv. CAC attendance roster – 2021
- v. Calendar of meetings, conferences, and events
- vi. Minutes of the December 16, 2021 MCAG Governing Board meeting
- vii. FY 21/22 Quarter 2 Governing Board Summary

So noted.

4. Consent calendar:

a. Merced County Association of Governments

- i. Approve the minutes of the December 3, 2021 Citizens Advisory Committee meeting

Jack Jackson moved to approve the consent calendar.

Seconded by Jose Delgadillo.

Roll call vote:

AYES: Maddie Brown, Jose Delgadillo, Rene Gutierrez, Jack Jackson, Jean Okuye, Shane Smith, Ursula Stock, Michelle Symes-Thiara, Paul Villarreal Jr., Paul Ward

NOES: None

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MERCED COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS

5. Action items:

- a. Approve the FY 2022-23 Overall Work Program Priorities

Nav Bagri summarized the request to approve the FY 2022-23 Overall Work Program Priorities.

Paul Villarreal Jr. moved to recommend the MCAG Governing Board approve the nine transportation planning priorities for Fiscal Year 2022-23.

Seconded by Jose Delgadillo.

Roll call vote:

AYES: Maddie Brown, Jose Delgadillo, Rene Gutierrez, Jack Jackson, Jean Okuye, Shane Smith, Ursula Stock, Michelle Symes-Thiara, Paul Villarreal Jr., Paul Ward

NOES: None

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- b. Authorize Executive Director to execute contract amendment No. 2 for the Dibs vanpool project

Natalia Austin summarized the request to authorize the Executive Director to execute contract amendment No. 2 for the Dibs vanpool project.

Paul Villarreal Jr. moved to recommend the MCAG Governing Board authorize the Executive Director to execute a second contract amendment with San Joaquin Council of Governments – Dibs for the current vanpool project to include additional funding in the amount of \$135,000 (\$50,000 unprogrammed CMAQ balance from FY 2021-2022 and \$85,000 of CMAQ funding from FY 2022-2023) for a total contract amount not to exceed \$293,000.

Seconded by Jack Jackson.

Roll call vote:

AYES: Maddie Brown, Jose Delgadillo, Rene Gutierrez, Jack Jackson, Jean Okuye, Shane Smith, Ursula Stock, Michelle Symes-Thiara, Paul Villarreal Jr., Paul Ward

NOES: None

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

6. Discussion items:

- a. Transportation Planning and Measure V update

Nav Bagri presented the Transportation Planning and Measure V update and discussed the following topics:

- 2022 Regional Transportation Plan – development is underway, asked CAC for a representative to serve on the RTP/SCS Advisory Committee
- 2018 Regional Transportation Plan and Sustainable Communities Strategy – is currently in review process with California Air Resources Board
- Measure V Implementation Plan – funding agreement submittals
- Measure V Annual Report – development is underway
- Regional Housing Needs Allocation – completion by late 2022
- Finish the 99 – campaign is underway

TRANSIT JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY FOR MERCED COUNTY

7. Action items:

- a. Authorize the Executive Director to exercise the remaining two option years in the existing CAD/AVL contract with Syncromatics in an amount not to exceed \$58,556 annually

Jose Perez summarized the request to authorize the Executive Director to exercise the remaining two option years in the existing CAD/AVL contract with Syncromatics in an amount not to exceed \$58,556 annually

Jack Jackson moved to recommend the Transit Joint Powers Authority for Merced County Board authorize the Executive Director to exercise the remaining two option years in the existing CAD/AVL contract with Syncromatics in an amount not to exceed \$58,556 annually.

Seconded by Paul Villarreal Jr.

Roll call vote:

AYES: Maddie Brown, Jose Delgadillo, Rene Gutierrez, Jack Jackson, Jean Okuye, Shane Smith, Ursula Stock, Michelle Symes-Thiara, Yamilet Valladolid, Paul Villarreal Jr., Paul Ward

NOES: None

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

8. Discussion items:

- a. Transit Joint Powers Authority for Merced County monthly update

Jose Perez presented the Transit Joint Powers Authority for Merced County monthly update and discussed the following topics:

- Ridership increases
- Emergency Service Reductions for fixed routes
- Expanded Measure V Free Fare Program
- New Bus Purchases are being finalized
- Transit Administration Offices Invitation for Bids released
- Bus Stop Improvements – shelters have been ordered
- Short Range Transit Plan – data collection is underway

9. Announcements

Jose Delgadillo wished everyone a Happy New Year.

Rene Gutierrez stated that family was able to utilize Amtrak and the YARTS bus to Yosemite with the free passes that are being offered to Merced County residents.

Chair Shane Smith stated that the committee still has one vacancy for the Small Business representative and asked that committee members solicit candidates. Chair Shane Smith reiterated his previous request to hold a committee meeting on the westside in Los Banos in May of 2022 or in the fall so that there is opportunity for residents in Los Banos to attend a meeting and to accommodate current members who reside on the westside. Staff will look into options as pandemic conditions and facility availability permit.

Several committee members voiced a concern of in-person meetings indoors and would like to participate in an in-person meeting hosted outdoors when the weather is warmer.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 9:36 a.m.